

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 8, 2005. Claims 1 to 12 are pending in the application. Claims 1 to 3, 5, 6 and 9 to 11 have been amended, and Claims 1, 5 and 9 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 4 to 6, 9, 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,633,308 (Ono); Claims 2, 6 to 8 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Ono; and Claims 1 to 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,278,446 (Liou). Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.

The present invention generally concerns presenting video browser data in a display, where the data is organized hierarchically in one or more levels, and where each of the levels includes multiple frames including a key frame. A parent level is selected, and a key frame associated with the parent level is displayed in a first display area. One of a parent-only and a parent-children magnification mode is chosen. If the parent-only mode is chosen, the key frame associated with the parent level and other key frames which are also associated with the parent level are displayed in a second display area, in magnified form relative to the key frame displayed in the first display area. If the parent-children mode is chosen, the key frame associated with the parent level and key frames associated with child levels associated with the parent level are displayed in the second display area, in magnified form relative to the key frame displayed in the first display area.

A feature of the present invention therefore lies in displaying a key frame associated with a parent level in first and second display areas, wherein the key frame

displayed in the second display area is in magnified form relative to the key frame displayed in the first display area.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claims 1, 5 and 9 as amended are respectively directed to a method, an apparatus and a computer program product.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the invention of the subject application. In particular, Ono and Liou are not seen to disclose or suggest at least the feature of displaying a key frame associated with a parent level in first and second display areas, wherein the key frame displayed in the second display area is in magnified form relative to the key frame displayed in the first display area.

As understood by Applicants, Ono discloses a tree structure for managing dynamic image data. Three scene display areas 70a, 70b, and 70c display a scene structure having three different hierarchies. The scene display area 70a displays a scene having a higher order hierarchy than that of a reference pointer by one level. The scene display area 70b displays a scene having the same hierarchical level as that the reference pointer. The scene display area 70c displays a scene having a lower order hierarchy than that of the reference pointer by one level and belonging to the node of the reference pointer 22. See Ono, column 5, lines 14 to 23; and Figures 2 and 7.

Although Ono may be seen to disclose the hierarchical arrangement of image data, it is not seen to disclose or suggest that a key frame associated with a parent level is displayed in first and second display areas. Instead, Ono teaches that scenes associated with different hierarchies are displayed in different scene display areas. Moreover, Ono is not seen to disclose or suggest displaying a magnified form of the key

frame in the second display area. Accordingly, Ono is not seen to disclose or suggest displaying a key frame associated with a parent level in first and second display areas, wherein the key frame displayed in the second display area is in magnified form relative to the key frame displayed in the first display area.

Liou is seen to disclose a system for organizing and browsing video. A tree view interface displays a tree structure in which each node has a representative icon. The video is represented by a root node, and each story is represented with a story or main branch node. The subplots in each story are represented with a subplot or secondary branch node. Leaf nodes contain shots from a shot-list. See Liou, Fig. 14; and column 13, lines 57 to 66. In addition, a video player interface allows a user to view the video from any point in the video, and includes fast forward, rewind, pause and step functionality. See Liou, column 15, lines 40 to 44.

Although Liou may be seen to disclose the organization and browsing of video data using a tree structure, it is not seen to disclose or suggest that a key frame associated with a parent level is displayed in first and second display areas. Rather, Liou merely discloses that the tree structure is organized into root nodes, story branch nodes, subplot nodes, and leaf nodes, and that video can be viewed at any point by a user. In addition, Liou is not seen to disclose or suggest that a magnified form of the key frame is displayed in the second display area. Accordingly, Liou is not seen to disclose or suggest displaying a key frame associated with a parent level in first and second display areas, wherein the key frame displayed in the second display area is in magnified form relative to the key frame displayed in the first display area.

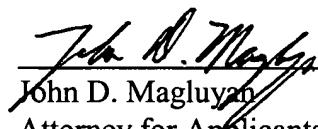
Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 1, 5 and 9 as amended are believed to be allowable over the applied references.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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